

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Techniques are provided for synthesizing speech using discourse function level prosodic features. An output text is determined. The discourse functions within the text are determined based on a theory of discourse analysis such as the Unified
5 Linguistic Discourse Model. The salient prosodic features associated with the discourse functions are identified using a predictive model of discourse functions or some other model of salient prosodic features. The discourse functions are transformed into synthesized speech. Discourse function level prosodic feature adjustments are determined and applied to the synthesized speech is output.